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FAM-SOVIET OIL, 790

FUS EXPERT CRITICIZES CIA PREDICTIONS ON SOVIET

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PHILADELPHIA (AP) - A LEADING AMERICAN EXPERT
ECONOMY ASSERTS THAT CIA PREDICTIONS ON SOVIET
PRODUCTION HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE "A SELF-DEF

IN A WIDELY PUBLICIZED 1977 REPORT AND SUBSEQUENT UPDATES; THE U.S.
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY FORECAST THAT SOVIET PETROLEUM OUTPUT WOULD SOON
PEAK AND THEN START DECLINING.

BUT MARSHALL I. GOLDMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE RUSSIAN RESEARCH
CENTER AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY, SAID THE PREDICTIONS WERE EXAGGERATED
AND APPEAR TO HAVE HELPED SPUR THE KREMLIN TO UNDERTAKE MAJOR STEPS
AIMED AT ALLEVIATING THE POTENTIAL OIL SQUEEZE.

CIA ANALYST DAVID JACKSON DEFENDED THE AGENCY'S POSITION; HOWEVER;
CONTENDING THAT GROWTH IN SOVIET OIL OUTPUT HAS "SLOWED MARKEDLY"
AND THAT THE MAIN UNRESOLVED QUESTION IS HOW ABRUPTLY PETROLEUM
PRODUCTION WILL DROP OFF IN COMING YEARS.

GOLDMAN AND JACKSON SPOKE SATURDAY AT A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SLAVIC STUDIES; AN
ORGANIZATION OF U.S. ACADEMIC SPECIALISTS ON THE SOVIET UNION AND
EASTERN EUROPE.

CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER REPEATED THE AGENCY'S SOVIET OIL
FORECAST WHEN HE TESTIFIED BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL PANEL IN APRIL THAT
KREMLIN LEADERS WILL FACE "EXTREMELY PAINFUL" CHOICES AS THEIR
COUNTRY BECOMES A NET PETROLEUM IMPORTER IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

TOGETHER WITH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL MOVES BY THE SOVIETS; "MORE
FORCEFUL ACTION; RANGING FROM COVERT SUBVERSION TO INTIMIDATION; OR;
IN THE EXTREME, MILITARY ACTION CANNOT BE RULED OUT," TURNER SAID.

GOLDMAN TOLD A CONVENTION PANEL SESSION HERE THAT WITH REGARD TO
SOVIET ENERGY; "I'D RATHER HAVE THEIR PROBLEMS THAN OURS. WE HAVE TO
IMPORT CLOSE TO 40 PERCENT OF OUR OIL; WHILE THEY'RE STILL EXPORTING
25 PERCENT OF WHAT THEY'RE PRODUCING."

HE SAID AMERICANS TEND TO FORGET THAT DESPITE VARIOUS PROBLEMS; THE
SOVIET UNION IS STILL THE WORLD'S LARGEST PRODUCER OF OIL AND SECOND
BIGGEST EXPORTER; TRAILING ONLY SAUDI ARABIA.

THIS YEAR'S SOVIET TARGET FOR OIL PRODUCTION IS 606 MILLION METRIC
TONS; OR AN AVERAGE OF JUST OVER 12.1 MILLION BARRELS A DAY. BY
CONTRAST; U.S. OIL OUTPUT WAS 10.9 MILLION BARRELS PER DAY DURING THE
FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR; ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM
INSTITUTE.